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Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
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DEPT PASS OAU COLLECTIVE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OAU
SUBJ: ELEVENTH EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

REF: KINSHASA 10300

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED
1. BEGIN SUMMARY: AT CONCLUSION OF ITS ELEVENTH EXTRAORDINARY MEETING, OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ADOPTED FINAL DECLARATION WHICH APPROVED PRES MOBUTU'S PROPOSAL TO CREAT AN AFRICAN COMMON MARKET. COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ALSO ADOPTED RESOLUTION CONCERNING NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE. END SUMMARY.

2. IN IT FINAL SESSION, DEC 10, OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ADOPTED DECLARATION WHICH CONTAINED FOLLOWING MAIN POINTS:
-) APPROVAL OF GRADUAL CREATION OF AFRICAN COMMON MARKET TO COME INTO BEING WITHIN 25 YEARS. FEASIBILITY STUDIES ON THE ESTABLISH-MENT OF THE COMMON MARKET ARE TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE OAU AND ECA SECRETARIATE AS WELL AS OTHER AFRICAN INSTITUTIONS, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE AFRICAN MINISTERS OF COMMERCE CONFERENCE.
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B) OAU SECRETARY GENERAL WAS GIVEN MANDATE TO PREPARE STUDIES

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RELATING TO INTER-AFRICAN COOPERATION IN COMMERCE AND INTEGRATED
AFRICAN ENERGY POLICY.
C) VARIOUS REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL GROUPING ALREADY IN EXIST-
ENCE SHOULD BE STRENGTHENED.
D) OAU AND ECA SHOULD SET UP A ECONOMIC DATA BANK TO LAY FOUND-
ATIONS FOR EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.
E) OAU, ECA AND AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK SHOULD UNDERTAKE TO MOBI-
LIZE NECESSARY FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO FINANCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.
F) PLANNING INSTITUTE IN DAKAR SHOULD BE STRENGTHENED AS SHOULD
BE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEPARTMENT OF THE OAU.

3. IN ADDITION TO ABOVE DECLARATION, COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ADOPTED
RESOLUTION ON NORTH-SHOUTH DIALOGUE WHICH: REGRETS NEGATIVE
ATTITUDE OF INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES WHICH RESULTED IN IMPASSE
DURING NEGOTIATIONS ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION, REAFFIRMS
DETERMINATION TO PROMOTE AND STRENGTHEN AFRICAN COOPERATION, CALLS
UPON MEMBER STATES OF GROUP OF 19 TO MEET AT THE MINISTERIAL
LEVEL BEFORE DEC 20, AND RECOMMENDS THAT THE AFRICAN MEMBERS OF
THIS GROUP TAKE THE NECESSARY MEASURES TO CONVENE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
A MEETING OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AT A HIGH LEVEL. END UNCLASS-
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4. COMMENT: MANY DEPARTING DELEGATES HAILED CONFERENCE AS A SUCCESS
AND ZAIRIAN PRESS ATTRIBUTED THIS TO ADOPTION OF MOBUTU'S PROPOSAL
FOR AFRICAN COMMON MARKET. WE HAVE NO BASIS ON WHICH TO COMPARE
RELATIVE SUCCESS OF CONFERENCE EXCEPT IN SO FAR AS THERE APPEARS
TO BE NO MAJOR DISAGREEMENTS WITH CONCEPT OF AFRICAN COMMON MARKET.
DELEGATES AT WORKING LEVEL, HOWEVER, WERE LESS ENTHOUSIASTIC
ABOUT RESULTS. ONE SOURCE POINTED OUT THAT CONFERENCE WAS ILL-
CONCEIVED AND POORLY PREPAREDD. OTHERS NOTED THAT CREATION OF
AFRICAN COMMON MARKET WAS NEXT TO IMPOSSIBLE AND CITED AS EXAMPLES
DIFFICULTIES WITHIN EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY. STILL OTHERS COMM-
ENTED THAT EXTRAORDINARY SESSION SHOULD HAVE TAKEN PLACE AFTER ECA
MEETING SCHEDULED TO OCCUR EARLY NEXT YEAR IN KINSHASA.

5. AS BEST AS CAN BE DETERMINED, QUESTION OF OPEC PRICE INCREASE
WAS NOT FORMALLY DISCUSSED AT CONFERENCE ALTHOUGH WE UNDERSTAND
THAT GHANIAN FONMIN DID ADDRESS ISSUE IN HIS PLENARY STATEMENT.
WE GATHER AFRICANS DECIDED NOT TO MAKE AN ISSUE OF THIS QUESTION
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AT THIS TIME, PREFERRING TO SHOW UNANIMITY WITH RESPECT TO ECONOMIC
COOPERATION. HOWEVER, WE UNDERSTAND OPEC PRICE RISE IS EXPECTED
TO BE RAISED AT FORTHCOMING AFRICAN-ARAB MEETING IN CAIRO TO TAKE
PLACE AFTER OPEC MINISTERS CONVENE.

6. FINALLY, ANGOLAN DELEGATION NEVER DID ATTEND MEETING AND WE
UNDERSTAND THIS MAY HAVE BEEN DUE TO DECISION OF MPLA REVOLU-
TIONARY COUNCIL NOT T SEND REPS BECAUSE OF DIFFICULTIES WITH GOZ.

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